

EPA expressed lack of objections

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LO



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

January 12, 1996

Ms. Miki Stuebe
Planning Team Leader
Carlsbad Caverns General Management Plan
P.O. Box 2587
National Park Service
Denver Service Center
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

Dear Ms. Stuebe:

In accordance with our responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (CEQ) for Implementing NEPA, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 office in Dallas, Texas, has completed its review of the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service (NPS) General Management and Development Concept Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy County, New Mexico.

The General Management and Development Concept Plan for Carlsbad National Park is a guide to set forth the basic management philosophy and to provide for a strategy for addressing issues and for achieving management objectives for the park over the next 10 to 15 years. Under the proposed action, Alternative 2, would base resource management direction and visitor use decisions on scientific research, inventory, and monitoring. Data would be gathered about how human activities and facilities are affecting park resources and would consider measures possibly ranging from infrastructure improvements to the removal of certain facilities above Carlsbad Caverns. The DEIS states that no significant adverse impact would occur to natural resources as result of the implementation of proposed management plan. The plan would protect the park's significant resources better than the no action alternative.

EPA classifies your DEIS and proposed action as "LO," i.e., EPA has "Lack of Objections". Our classification will be published in the Federal Register according to our responsibility under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, to inform the public of our views on proposed Federal actions.

We appreciate the opportunity to review the DEIS and request that you send our office one (1) copy of the Final EIS at the same time that it is sent to the Office of Federal Activities, EPA, 401 M. Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20460.

Sincerely yours,

Michael P. Jansky, P.E.

Michael P. Jansky, P.E.
Regional 309 Review Coordinator